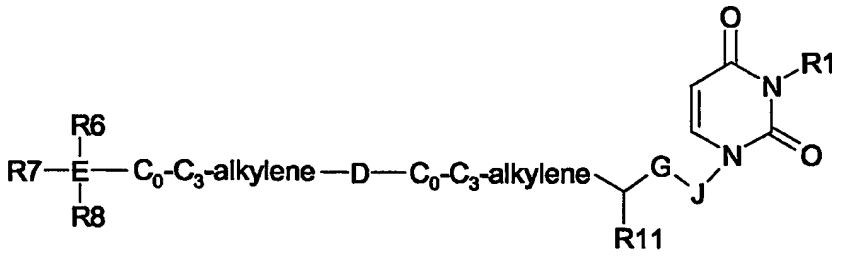
CLAIMS

1. Use of a compound according to formula I, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of parasitic infections in mammals, including man:



I

where

R^1 is H, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5 alkenyl, C_2-C_5 alkynyl or a 5 or 6 membered, saturated or unsaturated ring containing 0 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N O and S, the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or ring being independently optionally substituted with R^4;

D is -NHCO-, -CONH-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -CH=CH, -C≡C-, -NR^5-;

R^4 is hydrogen, halo, cyano, amino, nitro, carboxy, carbamoyl, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_1-C_5 haloalkyl, C_1-C_5 alkyloxy, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_5 alkylthio, -$N(C_0$-C_3-alkyl$)_2$, hydroxymethyl, aminomethyl, carboxymethyl; -$SO_2N(C_0$-C_3-alkyl), -SO_2C_1-C_5-alkyl;

R^5 is H, C_1-C_4 alkyl, C_1-C_4 alkanoyl;

E is Si or C;

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently selected from C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl or a stable monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic ring system which is saturated or unsaturated in which each ring has 0 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently optionally substituted with R^4;

G is -O-, -S-, -CHR^{10}-, -C(=O)-;

J is -CH_2-, or when G is CHR^{10} may also be -O- or -NH-;

R^{10} is H, F, -CH_3, -CH_2NH_2, -CH_2OH, -OH; or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether, amide or ester thereof

R^{11} is H, F, -CH_3, -CH_2NH_2, -CH_2OH, CH(OH)CH_3, CH(NH_2)CH_3; or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether, amide or ester thereof; or

R^{10} and R^{11} together define an olefinic bond, or together form a -CH_2-group, thereby defining a *cis* or *trans* cyclopropyl group;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. Use of a compound according to claim 1, wherein G is -O- or -CH_2-.

3. Use of a compound according to claim 1 wherein R^{10} and R^{11} define an olefinic bond or a cyclopropyl group.

4. Use of a compound according to claim 1, wherein R^{11} is H; CH_2OH or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether or ester thereof; or CH_2NH_2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable amide thereof.

5. Use of a compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is H.

6. Use of a compound according to claim 1, wherein D is -O- or -NH-.

7. Use of a compound according to claim 6, wherein C_0-C_3-alkylene-D-C_0-C_3-alkylene is oxymethylene, oxyethylene or oxypropylene.

8. Use of a compound according to claim 6, wherein C_0-C_3-alkylene-D-C_0-C_3-alkylene is aminomethylene, aminoethylene or aminopropylene.

9. Use of a compound wherein at least two of R^6, R^7 and R^8 are aryl.

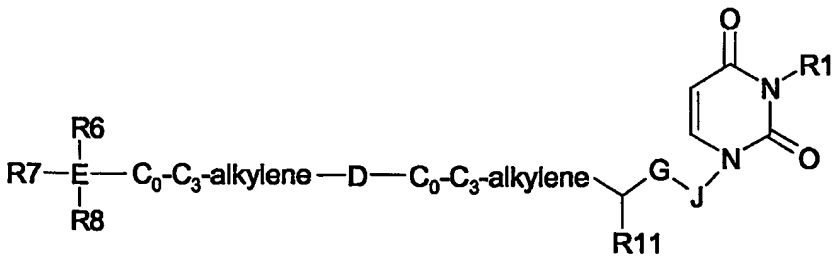
10. Use of a compound according to claim 1, wherein R^6 is optionally substituted phenyl.

11. Use of a compound according to claim 10 wherein R^8 is optionally substituted phenyl or pyridyl.

12. Use of a compound according to claim 1 wherein E is C.

13. Use according to any preceding claim, wherein the parasite is a Plasmodium species.

14. A compound of the formula II:



II

where

R^1 is H, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_2-C_5 alkenyl, C_2-C_5 alkynyl or a 5 or 6 membered, saturated or unsaturated ring containing 0 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S, the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or ring being independently optionally substituted with R^4;

D is -NHCO-, -CONH-, -O-, -C(=O)-, -CH=CH, -C≡C-, -NR^5-;

R^4 is hydrogen, halo, cyano, amino, nitro, carboxy, carbamoyl, hydroxy, oxo, C_1-C_5 alkyl, C_1-C_5 haloalkyl, C_1-C_5 alkyloxy, C_1-C_5 alkanoyl, C_1-C_5 alkanoyloxy, C_1-C_5 alkylthio, -$N(C_0$-C_3-alkyl)$_2$, hydroxymethyl, aminomethyl, carboxymethyl; -$SO_2N(C_0$-C_3-alkyl), -SO_2C_1-C_5-alkyl;

R^5 is H, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkanoyl;

E is Si or C;

R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from a stable monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic ring system which has an aromatic nature wherein each ring has 0 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S

R^8 is selected from C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_2-C_8 alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, or a stable monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic ring system which is saturated or unsaturated in which each ring has 0 to 3 heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently optionally substituted with R^4;

G is -O-, -S-, -CHR^{10}-, -C(=O)-;

J is -CH_2-, or when G is CHR^{10} may also be -O- or -NH-;

R^{10} is H, F, -CH_3, -CH_2NH_2, -CH_2OH, -OH; or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether, amide or ester thereof;

R^{11} is H, F, -CH_3, -CH_2NH_2, -CH_2OH, CH(OH)CH_3, CH(NH_2)CH_3 or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether, amide or ester thereof; or

R^{10} and R^{11} together define an olefinic bond, or together form a -CH_2-group, thereby defining a *cis* or *trans* cyclopropyl group;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

15. A compound according to claim 14 wherein G is -O- or -CH_2-.

16. A compound according to claim 14 wherein R^{10} and R^{11} define an olefinic bond or a cyclopropyl group.

17. A compound according to claim 14, wherein R^{11} is H; CH_2OH or a pharmaceutically acceptable ether or amide thereof, or CH_2NH_2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable amide thereof.

18. A compound according to claim 14, wherein R^1 is H.

20. A compound according to claim 14, wherein D is -O- or -NH-.

21. A compound according to claim 20, wherein C_0-C_3-alkylene-D-C_0-C_3-alkylene is oxymethylene, oxyethylene or oxypropylene.

22. A compound according to claim 20, wherein C_0-C_3-alkylene-D-C_0-C_3-alkylene is aminomethylene, aminoethylene or aminopropylene.

23. A compound according to claim 14, wherein R^6 is optionally substituted phenyl.

24. A compound according to claim 23 wherein R^8 is optionally substituted phenyl or pyridyl.

25. A compound according to claim 14 wherein E is C.

26. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in any preceding claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent therefor.